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MGB-A-300

14 August 1947

TO : []
FROM : [] 3448C
SUBJECT: CAMLET
REF : MGH-W-135

1. As you know, the rather disparaging remarks about CAMLET quoted in reference communication originated with [] []. This agent was dropped by Berlin FR in June 1947, primarily because of generally inadequate and biased reporting.

2. It will be sufficient to examine one or two statements about CAMLET made by [] [] to show how Source sacrificed facts and objectivity to anti-communist sentiments: sentiments which we believe border on the pathological. [] [] stated, for example, "that CAMLET comes from a Communist background (worker's family), is a Communist at heart, and hates everything smacking of bourgeoisie". Actually, CAMLET's father was a Social-Democratic trade-union official who eventually became Mayor of Berlin-Neukoelln, one of the largest Berlin boroughs. After the death of his father, his mother was re-married to the Social-Democratic Speaker of the Berlin City Assembly.

3. We stand by our earlier estimate of CAMLET's personality, supported by his record in Berlin politics. He has established for himself a reputation as a courageous fighter for the democratic cause. There is nothing in his record to indicate that he ever held pro-communist views.

TO: FBW for SC, Wash 1st Ind.

Approved.

Distribution:

2 - COS
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1 - Reg

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SOURCES METHODSEXEMPTION 3B2D
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

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CAMLET contacted undersigned on Wednesday, 18 September 1947, and outlined an operational plan which would, if properly implemented, in all probability secure the defection of MATERN, GNIFFKE, MEYER, and FECHNER at a time selected by the proper American authority.

SC Berlin

Have advised Berlin by cable to have nothing to do w/the proposition outlined in para 4. Will investigate further, but CAMLET's party interests make him a very poor security risk in an operation like this one.

M.L.C.

KAPOK #B-02
20 Sept 47

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